

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 /062 W

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R 071526Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6839

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS VIENNA 08561

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AU

SUBJECT: FINAL RESULTS OF 1975 AUSTRAIN NATIONAL ELECTIONS

REF: VIENNA 8501

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ABSENTEE BALLOT COUNT RESULTED IN SHIFT OF TWO SEATS TO PEOPLE'S PARTY AND RECONFIRMATION OF SOCIALIST ABSOLUTE MAJORITY. END SUMMARY.

2. COUNT OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS, WHICH WAS COMPLETED NOON OCTOBER 7, CAUSED SHIFT OF TWO SEATS TO PEOPLE'S PARTY (OVP) AT EXPENSE OF ONE SEAT EACH FROM SOCIALIST PARTY (SPO) AND FREEDOM PARTY (FPO). TOTAL VALID VOTE WAS 4,610,433. FINAL RESULTS IN PERCENTAGE OF VALID VOTES FOLLOWS: SPO: 50.41 PERCENT (50.04 IN 1971 OR PLUS.37); OVP: 42.95 (43.11 OR -.16); FPO: 5.41 (5.45 OR -.04); COMMUNIST PARTY: 1.19 (1.36 OR -.17).

3. ON BASIS FOREGOING, COMPOSITION OF NEXT PARLIAMENT
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WILL BE SAME AS OUTGOING ONE, NAMELY SPO: 93;
OVP: 80; FPO: 10. THIS DEVELOPMENT ONLY FURTHER

UNDERLINES EXTRAORDINARY INTERNAL POLITICAL STABILITY
OF AUSTRIA.

4. ABSENTEE BALLOT COUNT WAS EXPECTED (REFTEL) TO
RESULT IN SHIFT OF ONE SEAT TO OVP, MAJOR OPPOSITION
PARTY, BUT NOT TWO. OVP CAN NOW MAKE MODEST CLAIM THAT
IT, IN ADDITION TO SOCIALISTS, WAS WINNER IN OCTOBER 5
ELECTIONS. SMALL FREEDOM PARTY THUS HAS DUBIOUS HONOR
OF BEING ONLY LOSER, BASED ON COMPLICATED ARITHMETIC
OF APPLYING 1971 POST-ELECTION CENSUS RESULTS TO 1971
POST- ELECTION REORDERING OF ELECTION DISTRICTS.
ON LATTER BASIS, SEAT DISTRIBUTION IN OUTGOING
PARLIAMENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN: SPO: 92 (93IN 1971-75
PARLIAMENT); OVP: 79 (80); FPO: 12(10). ACCORDINGLY,
BOTH SPO AND OVP CAN CLAIM GAIN OF ONE SEAT AT EXPENSE
OF FPO. HOWEVER, SOCIALISTS REMAIN SOLE PSYCHOLOGICAL
VICTOR IN JUST COMPLETED ELECTION CONTEST, HAVING BEEN
ONLY PARTY TO ACHIEVE ITS ELECTION GOAL-MAINTAIN ITS
ABSOLUTE MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT-WHEREAS TWO
OPPOSITION PARTIES FELL SHORT OF THEI GOAL OF
BREAKING SOCIALIST DOMINATION OF GOVERNMENT.

5. KREISKY SUBMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT'S RESIGNATION
MORNING OCTOBER 7. AND WAS ASKED BY PRESIDENT TO STAY
ON INCARETAKER CAPACITY. SWEARING-IN OF NEW
KREISKY GOVERNMENT, WITHOUT CHANGE IN COMPOSITION,
IS NOW EXPECTED TAKE PLACE TOWARD END OF OCTOBER
AND NEW PARLIAMENT WILL PRBABLY MEET ON NOVEMBER 4.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENNA08561
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750347-1178
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751076/aaaacqbj.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 VIENNA 8501
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FINAL RESULTS OF 1975 AUSTRAIN NATIONAL ELECTIONS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006